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SCOTT C. BONE, Editor.  
Ernest H. Merrick, Treasurer and Business Manager  
Charles C. Archibald, Advertising Manager  
J. Harry Cunningham, Auditor  
Charles C. Thompson, Mechanical Superintendent  
Telephone Main 3300. (Private Branch Exchange.)

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1907.

Postponing the Inevitable.

The State Department has for the second time arranged an agreement with the German government postponing indefinitely the application of the German discriminatory tariff to imports from this country, again averting the tariff war that has been threatening for two years. Though the details of the new agreement have not been made public, it is apparent that it is based in part, at least, upon administration promises to attempt to secure the consent of the Senate to a reciprocity treaty, or to obtain from Congress some modification of the Dingley tariff law. In other words, the administration has undertaken to bring forward the tariff question in some form or other at the next session of Congress.

So far as our present information goes the standpaters of the incoming Congress will be just as unwilling to take up the tariff question as they ever were, their ready excuse being the proximity of a Presidential election. It will be difficult for the same reason to get a reciprocity treaty through the Senate, and there is said to be ground for the belief that, following action by Congress, the President will endeavor to have inserted in the Republican national platform a declaration on the subject of our trade relations with Germany. It is known that the President and Secretary Root are favorable to the principle of a maximum and minimum tariff, and it is quite possible that the establishment of such a tariff may be one of the issues in the coming Presidential campaign.

However this may be, it is certain that the temporary tariff agreement with Germany merely postpones the inevitable reopening of the whole tariff question, which is bound to occur within the next year. Politicians may temporize and evade, but the course of events and the momentum of public sentiment will force affirmative action upon even the most recalcitrant standpaters. When such a stalwart protectionist as John D. Rockefeller, who has said and done more to keep the tariff out of the crowd to put on their thinking caps.

Mr. Busse, Chicago's new mayor, weighs over 250 pounds. The growing fondness for fat men shown by the people will not be at all disturbing to the peace of mind of a certain portly gentleman from Ohio.

Be Just to Mr. Loeb.

We all know what it is that hath no fury like a woman scorned. Some people have acquired knowledge in the premises at first hand. Likewise, some of us have survived Kansas cyclones, and tropical earthquakes, and wars, and pestilences. We regard such experiences as more or less valuable and interesting, and yet but few of us, perhaps, would willingly repeat the dose.

We urge our friends to bear these things in mind if they become conscious of an inclination to criticize our esteemed fellow-citizen, William Loeb, Jr., for a course of action, or, rather, inaction, which at first blush might seem to partake somewhat of pusillanimity. We refer, of course, to Mr. Loeb's declination to receive the most widely advertised woman scorned who has jarred these parts in many moons. The secretary to the President, as everybody knows by this time, not only kept him out of action, but out of the room in the public room at the Executive offices set in a flutter all whose eyes beheld her, but went so far as to instruct a subordinate to go forth into the open and treat with the intruder.

To those who are inclined to attribute Mr. Loeb's procedure to a lack of courage, we would say these words: Remember that he is only human, even though his place is next to the highest in the land, and do not forget that he has proved his bravery in the past.

It is not our purpose to tell in detail all the valiant deeds with which the record shows William Loeb, Jr., to be credited. We merely recall his intrepid warfare against the ravenous rabbits of the Southwest plains, his intrepidity in chasing third-term rumors out of the White House, his calm and unflinching defiance of \$500,000 conspirators, and leave the rest to our well-informed readers. A sense of justice and fairness on their part, we think, will lead them to give Mr. Loeb due credit for his past performance, and to suspend final judgment at least until he shall have had an opportunity to redeem himself.

As to the lady herself, we can only say that her story contains a lesson which might be learned with profit by her sisters all over the world. It is a recognized feminine trait to desire fine raiment, and many of Eve's daughters who have worked that trait overtime have had cause for poignant regret. Yet here, it seems to us, is the saddest case of all. Think of the ineffable disappointment and misery of being kept from a royal presence by envy and jealousy aroused by the resplendent gorgeness of your own apparel! Surely, in the face of such indubitable testimony, no woman will ever again pine for fine and costly garments.

The situation being just as it is, we bespeak sympathy for both Loeb and the lady. We could, of course, express an opinion as to the proper disposition of the matter at issue, but we refrain

because Secretary of Everything Taft will soon be home again. The case doubtless will be turned over to him, and if it is, we know it will be settled, and settled satisfactorily.

In the meantime, with Taft off the lid, we counsel patience and forbearance.

"Play ball!" Lawyer Delmas knew when to bring his circus to a finish.

Presidential Policies and Politics.

Grover Cleveland's recent observation that legislation such as that proposed for the regulation of railroads should be formulated and discussed in a quiet hour becomes luminous with a new significance in the light of events still fresh in the public mind. Mr. Cleveland had in mind a popular frenzy akin to that which has characterized current controversy over the relations of corporations and the government, or, more accurately, the relations of corporations with the party now in control of our national destinies, though he was speaking more particularly of conditions in the several States, not of those at the seat of the Federal government. The time has struck for Mr. Cleveland's quiet hour, for a calmer consideration of the real issues which are thought to be at stake in the present political situation.

Mr. Roosevelt's corporation policy represents a true conservatism, for it aims at preserving the proper relations which should exist between the government and its creatures, and tends to correct serious evils in the conduct of modern business which should be remedied, and which may be remedied by well-devised and well-enforced law. That this policy should become a fixture of our national administration, and that it should be reinforced, if necessary, by further legislation, is a proposition to which the public gives hearty assent.

But is this policy inseparable from Mr. Roosevelt personally? Is it likely to perish with his administration, or to die with his retirement from office? The President's extraordinary popularity, based largely on his consistent effort to bring incorporated wealth within the bond of the law, supplies a ready negative to these questions. His great public service in this direction is freely and ungrudgingly acknowledged by all. He has built up a body of public opinion formed of many diverse elements. He has combined radicalism with conservatism, and gathered upon the same platform railway presidents and laboring men, the capitalist and the common people. And by so doing he has laid a firm foundation for the continuation of his economic policy, has made it practically impossible, in fact, for anybody to step into his shoes without the consent of the constituency which stands behind his contest with predatory wealth.

Yet Mr. Roosevelt seems bent on making the succession to the Presidency, so far as his own party is concerned, a personal matter. From the White House there is being conducted more than a year in advance of the time for the assembling of a national convention, a heated campaign for the control of that convention. His political activities may be condoned, and they may not be; but at all events they confuse the issue, which is not whether Mr. Roosevelt shall dominate his party, but whether certain governmental reforms shall become the permanent possession of the people. And that issue will be determined not so much by personal control of a political party as by the predominance of the public opinion which now supports the President—a public opinion that ought to be and undoubtedly will stand behind the endeavors of any honest, upright, and well-intentioned man to administer the Presidential office without fear or favor.

David Warfield should not have rebuked that Chicago audience for applauding at the wrong time. He should have remembered that he was in Chicago.

Our Good Faith in Cuba.

Secretary Taft's visit to Cuba has brought forth a specific declaration of American policy respecting the restoration of the Cuban government that will dash the hopes of those influential interests which have for some time been conducting an active propaganda for a protectorate. Mr. Taft's announcement that municipal elections will be held immediately after a census shall have been taken, to be followed within a few months by the Presidential and Congressional elections, proves the administration's determination to adhere to its original programme of setting up the Cuban republic as soon as conditions would permit, and thereupon terminating the American occupation. This was to have been expected, as any other course would have converted our honorable professions regarding Cuba into a hollow mockery.

If all goes well, our troops may leave the island in 1908, ending an occupation of over two years, a much longer period than was at first expected. President Roosevelt thought, at the time his last annual message was written, that the provisional government would administer the island's affairs "for a few months." It was soon found impossible, however, to hold new elections under the existing electoral laws, and in face of the irreconcilable attitude of the party leaders. The foundations of the electoral system had to be laid. A new census as a basis for registration or voters' new legislation to insure fair elections, so that the new officers chosen cannot be challenged as fraudulent, and a new spirit of loyalty to party and to country, are the prerequisites to the establishment of a stable government in Cuba. Of these, the first may be supplied by the provisional government, but patriotism and loyalty to the republic must come from the Cuban people themselves.

The United States wishes nothing of the harmful and useless agitations initiated by various interests to force the United States to establish a Cuban protectorate or to annex the island. We want neither territory nor protectorate, and as our power to intervene whenever necessary constitutes sufficient guarantee that life and property will always be secure in Cuba, there is no present necessity for altering the relations of the two countries.

Had former Senator Burton known that his little sensation was to get lost in the noise surrounding the big sensation, as it did, he probably would have declined to accept those days off his sentence awarded him for good behavior.

Persia has only one railroad, and it is just ten miles long. In view of the fact that the Persian Congress is less

than six months old, it is apparent that the editors of that land had practically nothing at all to abuse up to a very recent time.

Baseball—Washington, 1907-08.

There are times when questions of high import may fittingly give place to the consideration of matters which, though fraught with feeling interest, are yet for the moment allied with the possibility of rejuvenating excitement. There are times, in short, when it is both profitable and pleasant to altogether seemly for willing workers to forego their work and join the pleasure-seeking throng.

Such a time—the date of the first baseball game of the season—has rolled around once more. The fan, in many cases, under an assumed gravity of demeanor, now becomes perky and gladsome in his soul, and ever and anon reverts to the ecstatic verbiage of the diamond, of those choice spirits whose sacred chant is flung aloft from game to game in mighty waves of joy, or lost betimes in the vociferous bitterness of unthinkable despair. Citizens of all classes recall exciting contests of seasons past and, in view of managerial expressions of confidence, wonder whether the autumnal prophecy of "a winning club next year" is finally to prove true.

So far as Washington is concerned, give her any sort of encouragement, and there can be no question about the enthusiasm with which she will follow the varying fortune of the local team. The fans of this baseball ballclub are the most loyal in the country in support of baseball players who give evidence of an earnest desire to win. This year's club, not having been thoroughly tried out as a finished whole—being in reality a spick-and-span conjecture—is necessarily an object of conjecture as regards its ability to rank high among its competitors. Viewed individually as at present constituted, if the Nationals are bound together by that indefinable psychologic something which is requisite to good team work, there is some likelihood that they possess enough snap and vigor to keep up a first-division pace during the season.

That the game this afternoon may prove auspiciously exciting, and that the coming season may be marked by close contests, clean sport, and much prosperity, is the wish of The Washington Herald.

Once in a while the common people get in a large-size grin. It has been ruled that railroad officials cannot accept express franks under the new rate law.

The Sultan of Morocco says that France doesn't think it exactly safe and sane to say anything but that.

"Talk is not always cheap," says the Baltimore American. No, indeed; especially when it is money that is talking.

A writer describes Raisoul as "a polished gentleman." He certainly is a smooth one.

The Charleston News and Courier claims to have seen a whale eighty feet in length cruising about the Charleston Harbor recently. So soon after the breaking up of the State dispensary, too.

A contemporary refers to "the meteoric campaign of Dunne." Meteor—nothing! That was merely the pink whiskers attachment.

An elephant in one of the Western zoos went mad recently because its keeper fed it breakfast food. From milk, fresh hay to sawdust was enough to make the elephant mad!

It is well for the Houston Post to bear in mind the fact that so far as quality is concerned, Texas strawberries are 19 to 0.

A Montana Congressman-elect is heading a posse to pursue a band of bandits and horse thieves. He evidently understands the quick and sure way to reach a position of usefulness to his constituents and glory to himself.

Congressman Rainey doubtless has an ardent admirer in Mr. Polynice Bigelow.

A Greenfield, Mass., man recently received a newspaper mailed to him in 1881. Well, yes; the trains do run a little slow and old schedule at times.

The poundmaster of a Pennsylvania city will serve for a salary of \$750 per annum. It is not the salary, usually, that counts, however, in Pennsylvania.

A writer in a current magazine says that it is all a mistake about two things being able to live as cheaply as one. Theoretically it is not a mistake; but people cannot live on theory alone.

Mr. Arthur Nevill certainly displayed remarkable haste in getting out of Pittsburgh's immortal twenty-eight.

"A Western man lassoed a big eagle while flying at full speed," says the Birmingham News. So the flying machine has been invented, after all!

"Gov.-elect Hoke Smith will come back from Europe thoroughly rested and in fine shape to tackle the Georgia legislature," says the American (Ga.) Times-Recorder. What is Hoke going to do to the legislature? Eat it?

If the concurrent resolution passed by the Minnesota legislature fails to move Mr. Roosevelt to the throne, he might get some judge to sentence him to run again.

Among those not wholly inconsiderable consequences of the defeat of Mayor Dunne may also be mentioned the Hon. Benjamin Ryan Tillman.

All Chicago Has to Do.

The Indianapolis News says that "with the election off its hands and the railway strike averted, there is imminent danger of Chicago's suffering somewhat from ennui." True for you, brother; all we have to do now is to clean the streets, kill the smoke nuisance, reform the police department, rejuvenate the water system, settle the telephone dispute, build a new city hall, get our new charter started, and put an entirely new street car service into operation.

Accustomed to Whales.

The Columbia State twits Charleston because nobody chased an alleged whale in the harbor. Charleston is not accustomed to entertaining whales. Secretary Taft has been in Charleston twice this winter.

What the Trusts Are For.

From the Dayton (Ohio) News.  
Dr. Lyman Abbott says "the trusts are for the people's benefit. What he meant probably was that the trusts are for the people's goods."

Twenty-seven Now.

From the Columbia State.  
Twenty-eight Pittsburghers on the road to heaven; one got married, then there were twenty-seven.

Cannot See the Fun.

From the Baltimore Sun.  
Mr. Loeb is another man who can't see anything funny in an after-dinner story.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

GET THE HOOK.

Once more we get the story, And rumors now are rife, That William Ellis Corey Will take another wife. You've heard the pretty fable Before-to-day, I guess. Is it to be sweet Mabelle? Yes, yes, yes.

We've read about their capers, Their edifying coos, For all the current papers They've made a lot of news, And when of Mister Corey The daily press lets go, Will any one be sorry? No, no, no.

Sting Him Up.

"Sir, you have a calculating look about you."

"Well?"

"Can't I sell you an adding machine?"

Spring.

"This is your busy season, eh?"

"Yes," replied the weather bureau man, "this is the time of year we show samples."

A Deceiver.

April smiles, and out we trot, In our best arrayed, To be drenched, as like as not, By the tricky jade.

Makes a Diff.

"They are of Dutch extraction."

"Faugh!"

"Come over in 1850."

"Oh!"

A Lavish Pourer.

"I need a little liquor after coming from the bath," said the man who finds excuses for drinking.

"Hold on there, though!" shouted the ungentlemanly barkeep. "You don't want one bath right on top of another one."

His Opinion.

"Get your wife to draw up a set of rules and regulations for the guidance of your conduct. Maybe you can please her that way."

"Oh, she'd rather stick to the unwritten law."

DRIFTWOOD.

From the Montgomery Advertiser.

A briar in the hand is not better than two in the bush.

We could all get along better if we would do more sawing and less hammering.

Every year Great Britain imports 62,648,000 rabbits from New Zealand. Out of this bunch there ought to be one left hind leg for Sir Thomas Lipton.

A man and wife could live as one if they didn't have so much trouble deciding which one.

Sometimes the poet writes when the spirit moves him, and sometimes when the landlady does that.

Taking Down the Stove.

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MEN AND THINGS.

Had Enough.

When the late Frank Hutton was Postmaster General and Uncle Joe Cannon was a plain member of the House, the latter called upon Mr. Hutton one day to inform him that he had escorted to the department a constituent who much desired the postmaster's office of Uncle Joe's home town of Danville, but whom Uncle Joe didn't want appointed. He left his constituent in the ante-room while he went to his real situation without before the Postmaster General. He explained the case to Mr. Hutton, frankly avowing that he did not want to assume the responsibility for the man's failure, but that as Mr. Hutton was sitting at stake in Illinois politics, the Postmaster General ought not to object to assume what- ever trouble might ensue when the Danville postmaster should be given to another man.

"Joe," said the Postmaster General, admonishingly, "if you bring that man in here and recommend him to me for appointment, I'll appoint him forthwith."

"Oh, no, Frank," exclaimed Uncle Joe; "you won't treat me as a joke, will you?"

"Yes, I will, Joe," insisted Mr. Hutton. Mr. Cannon, believing the Postmaster General was not "stringing" him, ushered in his man.

"You recommend him, do you, Joe?" inquired Mr. Hutton.

"Indeed I do, Frank," replied Mr. Cannon.

"Bing! went a bell. In a jiffy an obsequious messenger responded.

"Have the appointment clerk make out the commission for this gentleman as postmaster of Danville, Illinois," ordered Mr. Hutton, "and bring it to me immediately."

The messenger scooted off. Uncle Joe stood glaring appealingly at Mr. Hutton. The commission was brought back, signed by the Postmaster General, and turned over to the waiting applicant.

"Anything more this morning, Joe?" blandly asked Mr. Hutton, without even the faintest suggestion of a smile.

Bowing low and stroking his beard thoughtfully, Uncle Joe replied:

"No, thank ye, Frank. I believe I shall ask nothing more of you today, as I've already got more than was coming to me."

Warfield Has a Boom.

Gov. Edwin Warfield, of Maryland, is the latest to be entered in the Presidential running. Some of the Democratic weeklies of his State are sounding his praises and insisting that he would make a winning race. In their advocacy of him they point out that first a farmer, he knows the conditions controlling agricultural life, past and present; second, a teacher, knowing the wants of the public schools; a county official, gaining a knowledge of the wants of the plain people; a State official, with the practical knowledge of where State rights end and Federal influence should begin; a United States official, with the practical knowledge of the customs service controlling imports and